

CLIFFORD CHANCE US LLP
31 West 52nd Street
New York, NY 10019-6131
(212) 878-8476 – tel.
(212) 878-8375 - fax

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Docket No. 6175-005

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To: **Art Unit 2671**
United States Patent and Trademark Office

Papers Being Transmitted:
Status Inquiry

Number of Pages Being Transmitted (including cover): 3

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Serial No.: 09/394,824

Filed: September 13, 1999

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By: 
Melissa Schrader

Date: December 15, 2004

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NYA 704646.1

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Date: December 15, 2004

Name: Melissa Schrader

Signature: *Melissa Schrader*
Clifford Chance US LLP

Docket No. 6175-005 (formerly SOM-01601)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**RECEIVED**
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In re Application of: Rick Chin et al.

Filed: September 13, 1999

Group Art Unit: 2671

Serial No: 09/394,824

Examiner: Cliff N. Vo

For: ELECTRONIC DRAWING VIEWER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**STATUS INQUIRY**

Sir:

The issue fee was paid on May 12, 2003 in connection with the above matter. To date, the application has not issued and our follow-up communications with the Patent Office have gone unanswered. For over a year, Applicants have been in contact with the Examiner and the Examiner's Supervisor. Both individuals advised the Applicants of specific actions that were to take place, but these actions have yet to occur. As set forth below, you will find a line of events showing our attempts made to bring this application to allowance.

On April 23, 2003, an IDS was filed citing art from a corresponding European application. On May 12, 2003 the issue fee was paid. On January 12, 2004, James Mahon had a telephone discussion with Examiner Vo. Examiner Vo indicated that he would enter the IDS and allow the case.

On March 23, 2004, Ms. Deborah Roberts, an administrative assistant, spoke with Mr. Zimmerman. Mr. Zimmerman stated that they had a reference that was brought to their attention and they are considering it. Ms. Roberts followed-up with Mr. Zimmerman on April 13, 2004. Mr. Zimmerman stated that the PTO is withdrawing their notice of allowance because they found a reference that "speaks." Mr. Zimmerman stated that we should receive an office action within 3 months.

On June 10, 2004, Examiner Vo left James Mahon a voice-message stating that he will send out a response. Applicants followed-up twice with the Examiner in August 2004. On August 19, 2004, Ms.

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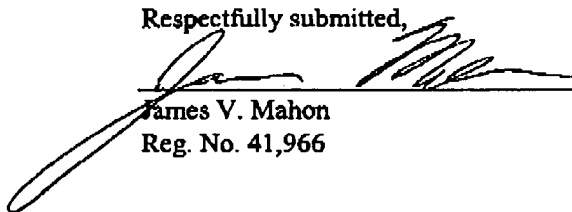
Docket No. 6175-005

Roberts spoke with Examiner Vo and the Examiner stated that he prepared an Office Action and that the Office Action was given to his supervisor for review/signature and that we should receive a written action within the next few weeks.

On October 14, 2004, Ms. Roberts spoke with Mr. Zimmerman and he said that they delay is not our fault, but they have looked at the references and they need to look at them again more closely. Examiner Zimmerman said that he will speak to Examiner Vo and they will try to get it to us a response by Thanksgiving.

In view of the above, an immediate response from the Patent Office is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 14, 2004
James V. Mahon
Reg. No. 41,966

Customer No. 27383
Clifford Chance US LLP
31 West 52nd Street
New York, NY 10019-6131
Telephone: (212) 878-8073